

Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application.
Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are pending.

35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,425,102 to Moy (hereinafter "Moy"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 recites a method for use in a graphical user interface configured to support a login operation, the method comprising:

- displaying at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user interface, the at least one user identifier prompt including at least one selectable user area operatively associated with a previously configured user capable of completing a login operation by inputting user password input;
- upon receiving user input selecting the at least one selectable user area, displaying at least one user input field within the graphical user interface, wherein the at least one user input field is automatically configured to operatively receive user password input associated with the login operation; and
- while conditions allow for the reception of the user password input and it is determined that there has been a failure to operatively receive the user password input for the login operation, then *automatically displaying reminder information associated with the user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface.*

Claim 9 recites a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to support a login operation by performing steps comprising:

- displaying at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user interface, the at least one user identifier prompt including at least one selectable user area operatively associated with a previously configured

1 user capable of completing a login operation by inputting user password
2 input;

- 3 • upon receiving user input selecting the at least one selectable user area,
4 displaying at least one user input field on the display within the
5 graphical user interface, wherein the at least one user input field is
6 automatically configured to operatively receive user password input
7 associated with the login operation;
- 8 • determining if there has been a failure to operatively receive the user
9 password input for the login operation while conditions allow for the
10 reception of the user input; and
- 11 • ***automatically displaying reminder information associated with the
12 user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical
13 user interface*** based on the failure to operatively receive the user
14 password input.

15 **Claim 17** recites an arrangement comprising:

- 16 • memory;
- 17 • a display device;
- 18 • a user input device; and
- 19 • a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the display device and
20 the user input device, the processor being configured to:
 - 21 ○ display at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user
22 interface on the display device, the at least one user identifier
23 prompt including at least one selectable user area operatively
24 associated with a previously configured user capable of
25 completing a login operation by inputting user password input;
 - receive user input selecting the at least one selectable user area,
and in response display at least one user input field within the
graphical user interface, wherein the at least one user input field
is automatically configured to operatively receive user password
input associated with the login operation;
 - determine if there has been a failure to operatively receive the
user password input for the login operation while conditions
allow for the reception of the user input; and
 - ***automatically display reminder information associated with the
user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the
graphical user interface*** based on the failure to operatively
receive the user password input.

1 None of the submitted references, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest
2 “automatically display reminder information associated with the user input field
3 through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface” as recited in
4 Claims 1, 9 and 17.

5 Moy is directed to a computer security system with password "hints" if the
6 user fails to recall the password. This apparatus is appended to existing computer
7 security apparatus and operates as an adjunct thereto. The user invokes the
8 password and/or data file encryption processes (hereinafter collectively referred to
9 as password protection system) in the usual manner. When the user thereafter
10 attempts to access the protected data files via the password protection system and
11 cannot remember the password used, the computer security apparatus inquires
12 whether the user wishes to receive a password hint from the apparatus. **The user**
13 **can then request a password hint, which was provided to the system by the**
14 **user upon the password protection initially being invoked.** The computer
15 security apparatus then presents the prerecorded password hint to the user in an
16 attempt to jog the user's memory to recall the password. Thus, although a hint is
17 provided in Moy, the hint is modal and requires additional inputs from the user in
18 order to be provided.

19 Beginning at page 3 of the subject application, however, exemplary use of
20 an automatic and non-modal method is described. The method in this example may
21 further include monitoring user input activities and automatically displaying the
22 reminder information associated with the user input field through the non-modal
23 mechanism after a defined period of user input inactivity. For example, if a user is
24 unable to remember a password, then the method provides an automatic non-
25 intrusive way for the reminder information, which the user previously entered

1 when setting up their password, to be displayed. A tip balloon is one type of a
2 non-modal display mechanism that does require the user to respond and does not
3 interfere graphically and/or operationally with the ongoing graphical user interface
4 supported process. Thus, in this example the method is both automatic (e.g., does
5 not require additional user inputs) and non-modal, e.g., it does not interfere
6 graphically and/or operationally with the ongoing graphical user interface
7 supported process.

8 The Office asserts Moy at column 6, lines 21-25 for disclosure of the above
9 limitation, which is excerpted as follows:

10 Means, responsive to said user failing to provide said
11 password, for retrieving a first of said succession of hints
12 from said hint storing means; and means for transmitting said
13 retrieved first hint to a display device for display to said user.
14 *Moy, Col. 6, Lines 21-25.*

15 Moy, in neither the above excerpted portion nor elsewhere in the reference,
16 discloses, teaches or suggests automation nor a non-modal mechanism.

17 In the Office Action Dated September 10, 2002, the Office asserted the
18 following:

19 Moy discloses automatically displaying reminder information
20 associated with the user input filed within the graphical user
21 interface (fig. 4), **but he does not disclose that being done**
22 **through a non-modal mechanism.** *Office Action Dated*
23 *September 10, 2002, Page 5 (emphasis added).*

24 Therefore the Office has previously acknowledged that Moy does not disclose, teach
25 or suggest a non-modal mechanism. However, the Office then asserted in the Final
Office Action that “because Examiner did not use Moy reference in the subsequent
Office Actions, this assertion was considered to be withdrawn”. *Office Action Dated*

1 November 3, 2004. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is in error, in that,
2 Moy is neither automatic nor non-modal. The Examiner then asserted the following:

3 “**Non-modal mechanism**”, as defined in page 2, lines 13-16 in
4 the specification, is a method that automatically displays
5 reminder information at appropriate times, without requiring an
6 additional user input or interfering with the user’s ability to
7 interact with the graphical user interface. According to Moy,
8 after the user activates the hint system by selecting on a menu
9 choice “Hint” as illustrated in FIG. 3 (col. 4, lines 10-12), then
10 responsive to the user failing to provide the password, the
11 system retrieves a first of the succession of hints from the hint
12 storing storage and display to the user (col 6, lines 21-25). If
13 the password does not match the stored password, the hint
14 display is **automatically** retransmitted to the user and this
15 process of hint and password retry is **iteratively repeated** until
16 the sequence of password hints is exhausted (col. 4, lines 43-
17 48). Therefore, Moy clearly teaches the “**Non-modal**
18 **mechanism**” feature as claimed by applicant. *See Office Action*
19 *Dated November 3, 2004, Pages 3-4 (emphasis in original).*

20 In short, the Examiner first asserts that a non-modal mechanism “automatically
21 display reminder information ... without requiring an additional user input or
22 interfering with the user’s ability to interact with the graphical user interface”. Then,
23 in the very next sentence, the Examiner states that Moy requires an additional user
24 input, e.g., “According to Moy, after the user activates the hint system by selecting
25 on a menu choice ‘Hint’ as illustrated in FIG. 3 (col. 4, lines 10-12)”. Thus, as
acknowledged by the Examiner, Moy requires an additional user input to provide a
hint. Thus, Moy is not automatic (e.g., requires a user input to initiate the hint) and
is modal, e.g., the input interferes with the user’s ability to interact with the graphical
user interface. This requirement is found throughout Moy, and thus it is respectfully
submitted that a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been established.

1 Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Claims 1, 9 and 17 are allowable and
2 withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

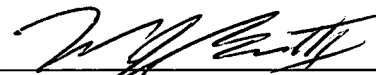
3 **Claim 5** depends directly from Claim 1, **Claim 13** depends directly from
4 Claim 9, and **Claim 21** depends directly from Claim 17. Therefore, each of these
5 dependent claims is allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These
6 claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with
7 those recited in respective Claims 1, 9 and 17 are neither shown nor suggested in
8 the references of record, either singly or in combination with one another.

9
10 **Conclusion**

11 Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Applicant
12 respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the subject
13 application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the
14 Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent
15 Action.

16 Respectfully Submitted,

17
18 Dated: 7/14/5

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